

What think ye of Christ

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
October 20, 1946

# FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH Maryland St. & Ellice Ave Winnipeg

Rev. A. B. Midland, Pastor (122 Borebank St. (Phone 404 329 Mr. Leslie Hall, Organist and Choirmaster

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude Processional Hymn #419 The Service page 7 Introit (to be read responsively 152 Gloria Patri, Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis Collect 152 Epistle 152 The Hallelujahs anthem Gospel 153 Apostles' Greed 72 Hymn #208 Sermon & Report of the 15th Biennial Convention of the United Lutheran Church Offering General Prayer and Lord's Prayer Benediction Recessional Hymn #202 Organ Postlude after Silent Prayer

Visitors are most welcome to our Services. The guest register in the vestibule of the Church awaits their signatures.

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O FOR THE WINGS OF A DOVE

by MENDELSSOHN

O for the wings of a dove! Far away

\$5-5A

would I rove, And remain there for ever at rest. In the wilderness build me'a nest, And remain there for ever at rest.

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# CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, Social Night at Church, sponsored by the Women's Guild

		8:00 F.M.
Friday,	Choir Practice	8:00 P:M:
Sunday,	Oct. 27, Sun. School	10:00 A. II.
	REFORMATION SERVICE	11:00 A.M.
	Children's Choir	12:00 Noon

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# NOTES

ON WEDNESDLY EVENING, Oct 23 at 8 P.M. the Women of the Guild have arranged a pleasant evening at Church. Interesting motion pictures will be shown, and lunch served. Free will offering. Bring your friends and come to enjoy a social evening.

MOST OF THE SERMON TIME today will be used in giving a report of the ULC Convention held Oct 5-12 at Cleveland, Ohio. Ir. H. Gauer, one of our Synod's delegates, will give the report.

NEXT SUNDAY is Reformation Sunday, a very important day on our Church calendar. Plan to be at Service; we should have a greater than usual attendance in observance of this day.

NEW MEMBERS will be received into the membership of this Church on Advent Sunday, Dec. 1 at a special Service. Any interested persons should be referred to the Pastor.

# The Least of These

This is a \$5,000 story. It is a true case history from the files of one of the Lutheran inner mission agencies which dot the country. The \$5,000 is what the chief character has cost the church thus far.

The story begins in 1919 when Melvin at the age of two was committed to a Lutheran home. He was one of seven children. Parental neglect broke the home and caused the children to be sent to various institutions. His brother was found to be 35 pounds underweight.

A note from the Lutheran Home in 1926 opens the case record:

1-12-26. Sister Helen says Melvin has been causing trouble in public school. The teacher recommends his commitment to the Grange School for Retarded Boys.

4-16-26. Physician at Grange School doesn't think Melvin is retarded. He gets spells but they are not epileptic. 4-30-26. Grange school will not keep Melvin any longer. He has been returned to Lutheran Home. Recommended he be placed in State Institution.

9-11-26. Melvin's case comes up in court today. Sister Helen asks us to have members of his family present.

9-11-26. Melvin-committed to State Institution. Unable to locate father. Institution is full, Melvin must wait. He is returned to Lutheran House. 8-14-27. Melvin admitted to State Institution.

2-3-28. Worker called on Melvin. He is unhappy. He is not permitted to wear clothes provided by the Home.

4-16-28. Melvin still unhappy. Has not had any spells in three months. Complains of treatment by orderlies. 4-29-28. Sister Helen visited Melvin. He asks to go back to Lutheran



Home. Says he will behave in public school. State Institution says only court can release Melvin. . . .

So the record goes for many more closely typed pages. The court released him from the State Institution: he returned to the Lutheran Home and attended public school. Once again he was troublesome. It was found through extensive hospital examinations that he injured his brain when a baby. Attempts were made to have his family take an interest in him but without success. He was placed in a hospital for the mentally deficient but took up petty thievery when released. In 1936 he again came to the Inner Mission's attention when he wrote from the House of Correction. The mission assisted in getting his release and found him a job in the country. There was no further entry in the record until early in the war when he tried to enlist. After rejection, he found employment in war industries.

Now the case has been opened again because of some trouble with his landlady. His previous record is against him and he is being held pending a hearing. It is very likely he will be released in the care of the Inner Mission, but Melvin's case will not end there. He will appear in the files for years to come as his past keeps cropping up.

Melvin's is no success story climaxed with his becoming a pillar of society. He will never change. But Melvin is "one of the least of these," for whom Jesus bids us care.